

**RP firms shun layoffs; cuts on 'non-people' costs**

**Ackerman's 'secret' son now running his brokerage firm**

**Punch-drunk gorgeous celeb shocks hotel guests**

# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEW

Wednesday, April 28, 2009 ••• 7 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 140 P10

**GOING FOR THE STR** Different weights division will be his legacy in the country which he prays to honor again with his triumph over the "Mikman from Manchester."

## Cha-cha can wait; 50 solons fly to Las Vegas

By Gil C. Calacangan Jr.

LOOKS LIKE EVEN QUARTER change (Cha-cha) debates at the House of Representatives have to wait because of the "Thousand's" upcoming fight. Up to 50 congressmen led by Speaker Prospero Nograles are flying off to the United States to watch Sunday's junior welterweight title clash between Filipino boxing sensation Manny Pacquiao and England's Ricky Hatton at the MGM



Grand Gardens Arena in Las Vegas.

A source, who yesterday disclosed the number of Pacquiao's VIP pep squad from the House, said it was one of the reasons why the chamber had been looking

CNA/CNA-AP

## Judai, Ryan pull off surprise with non-celebrity touches

By Rayan San Diego Jr.

SIMPLE, CLASSIC AND ELEGANT.

That was how actress Judy Ann Santos envisioned her wedding day with Isaac, TV host Ryan Agoncillo, in an interview with the Inquirer weeks before the wedding.

From all indications, Santos seemed to have gotten her wish when she tied the knot with Agoncillo in an early morning ceremony yesterday at the San Juan Nepomuceno Church in San Juan, Batangas, a three-

hour drive from Manila.

According to Santos' manager, Alfre Lorenzo, this was near Rosado where Agoncillo's parents were married.

The couple, ever mindful of the solemnity of the occasion, kept details under wraps and just a couple of days before the wedding.

Most of the guests learned of the final plans, date and time of the surprise only through text or e-mail, which the couple personally handled less than 48 hours before the event, revealed

AP/AP-AP



"TWO CIRCLES," the 40 guests or so are unanimous about the wedding of Judy Santos and Ryan Agoncillo on Tuesday morning at the San Juan Nepomuceno Church in San Juan, Batangas. Low on celebs and high on intimates of the couple, the "simple, classic" wedding is exactly how the couple dreamed it to be.

# WHO raises global alert

## Swine flu toll up to 152, now in 7 nations

PHILIPPINE OFFICIALS SAID yesterday the country has 600,000 anti-flu capsules to deal with a swine influenza that has prompted the World Health Organization to raise an unprecedented global alert for the virus that claimed more lives in Mexico.

Swine flu has spread to seven countries and appears to be jumping from swine to humans, officials said.

In New Zealand, the virus was confirmed in a group of students and teachers that recently visited Mexico, where the disease is suspected to have infected nearly 2,000 people and caused 152 deaths. Another case was confirmed in Israel.

Fifty cases—some fatal—have been confirmed in the United States, in Canada, two in Spain and two in Scotland.

European Union officials reported yesterday the cases were also being posted in Denmark, Sweden, Greece, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and

WHO/WHO-AP



**ARRIVALS IN MEXICO** Passengers go through a thermal scanner machine, which monitors temperatures, on arrival at the Subic Bay International Airport in Zambales on Tuesday. The danger signs step up its alerts on travelers due to the outbreak of swine flu in Mexico. Like the Philippines, Indonesia has suspended pork imports from the United States, Mexico and Canada.

## Yano Brunei posting surprises DFA

By Niklos Disan and TJ Burgin

THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY DEFENSE Secretary Gilbert Yano of the ambassadorial appointments of two of the military top brass was not only a breach of protocol but also a surprise

to the foreign service community according to a reading offered by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

"This announcement apparently caught the DFA and career diplomats by surprise. More importantly, it doesn't sit well with them," the official

yesterday told the Inquirer, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

"The administration should stop treating the foreign service as a pass-around," the official said, and went on to quote the

YANO/AP

## Joker blames House militants for Palparan luck

By Michael Lim-Uber and Gil Calacangan Jr.

IS IT A CASE OF TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE?

Yes, Joker Arroyo yesterday blamed party-list lawmakers for his allegedly losing a house of protest over the congressional return of Mayor Gen. Arroyo Palparan to sit as a party-list member of the House of Representatives.

Palparan's detractors, led by militant party-list groups only have themselves to blame for his good fortune, the senator said.

Arroyo posted one shut in 2007, the then legislative general was pronounced in major ground. As with all other

JOKER/AP

## Quorum trips impeach rap vs Ombudsman

By Lito B. Solaz and John C. Tordes Jr.

THE FIRST HEARING ON THE impeachment complaint against Ombudsman Mercedito Gutierrez was on show after a fiery blast yesterday because of the absence of more than half of the members, mostly from the majority.

Rep. Maria Delos Angeles, chair of the justice committee, declared a lack of quorum and adjourned the hearing after a second roll call showed there were

QUORUM/AP

## Magdalo rescue is also kill-GMA plot, says PAOCC

By Christine V. Espinosa and Terna Quinsanda

IT WAS NOT JUST AN ALLEGED plot to spring military rebel leaders out of jail, but also an assassination plot targeting the President himself.

One astounding conspiracy theory is involving not only another front the credible low-key Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission.

PAOCC Commissioner Gepor "Bach" Balgosa yesterday claimed that the ultimate goal of the rebel soldiers

attacked April 24 at a Clark Field firing range in Pangasinan was to assassinate President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"It's like in the movies," Balgosa told the Inquirer, adding that the armed group—alleged members of the Magdalo faction—had been training to

neutralize a target from "half a kilometer away."

On Monday, PAOCC director Mariano "Bong" Villadoro said the rebels were planning a commando rescue for their two detained leaders in Camp Crame.

MAGDALO/AP



**VIEW FROM THE OFFICE WINDOW** A lake is just one refreshing sight in Ayala Land's new community Manila, which spreads over 1,700 ha in Laguna along the Sta Rosa-Tagaytay Road.

## 'Presidentiables' all 'tradpols,' says bishop

By Dora Z. Pazzibon

CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENCY are coming out of the woodwork, but so far, no one makes the grade for Manila Archbishop Donald Ballester.

In his view, these "presidentiables" come from the mold of traditional politicians who have perverted a system that keeps the majority of Filipinos

impoverished.

"An anyone passing under that sign is a tradpol," Ballester says in the 150th anniversary of the birth of the nation. "They're all traditional politicians. Let's continue looking for other candidates," Ballester yesterday told a Catholic Church gathering where he said that any of the likely presidential candidates

PRESIDENTIABLES/AP



**BLARE OF MUSIC, SOUND OF PRAYER** Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Manila, which is being drawn out by Camp Aguinaldo's loudspeakers, (Story on Page A2)

**Second FRONT PAGE**

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Visayas	Cloudy	24-30
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**SUPERLOTTO 4/49**

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# Villar told: Face the music

**By Christine O. Alvarez**

**WITH OR WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF SEN. Manuel Villar Jr., the Senate acting as a committee of the whole will push ahead with its investigation of the ethics complaint against him, Sen. Pueblo Lacson said yesterday.**

"We can't be expected to hold hearings by the non-participation of Sen. Villar," said Lacson.

Lacson warned Villar it will be his "choice" if he refuses to participate in the Senate's investigation. "If he refuses to participate, he will be considered as a non-participant of the investigation," said Lacson.

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## Prayers, protest mark Jonas 2nd anniversary

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF DECEASED AGUSTIN Jonas Bugarin studied the second year of his disappearance with prayers and a silent protest outside the main military headquarters.**

Active priest Fr. Robert Reyes and Mass on a makeshift altar at the adjacent Manila Group Apartments in Quezon City near the Army main building from the tragic incident, the military's standard response to protests outside its gates.

The Bugarin family and anti-war groups have accused the military of being responsible for Jonas' abduction from a Quezon City shopping mall nearly two years ago yesterday.

"The last two years have been hell for us because of uncertainty," said Bugarin's sister, who lives in a makeshift home.



KITH BUGARIN: Two years of her son's disappearance have been "hell" on her side of uncertainty.

**Not giving up**

"We, the family and friends of Agustín, will give up. Though the family of Agustín was present in the very institutions that are used to protect the people, there is a truth about what happened. We believe that in the future and one period later, the truth will be known and justice will be served," said Bugarin, speaking before about 20 soldiers.

Carrying placards bearing photographs of Jonas, soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division (Majors) Reyes and families of the disappeared, held a silent protest in front of the main building of the military.

**Bugarin's lamentations**

Later in the day, the significance of Bugarin's case to justice in connection to his disappearance was felt by the family.

That morning from both sides of the political fence — Majority Leader Sen. Ralph Dela Cruz, Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr., P. Cojuangco and Sergio Sison — met the family to discuss the case.

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# With Labor Day, it's another long weekend

FLORIDIAN ARE IN FOR ANOTHER long weekend with Labor Day, a half-day falling on a Friday.

The schedule will give workers a three-day vacation unless they prefer

working May 1. Joining Labor Day on Friday, South Korea organized by the government and labor groups.

Disinfecting has consistently caused down demand for a major business, ap-

proach government's priority new workman that employees would have done site and the global financial crisis.

Peru's economy began to recover and the market should be left in the

collective for getting agreements between labor and management of industrial companies, and to the regional economic stage and productivity

brands. Christian V. Espinoza

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# RENEW by Affirm™ proven to make skin younger-looking

It would be hypocritical to say the skin looks 10 years, that looking young and beautiful nowadays is a result of "hormones and genetic advantage." The same hormone does not apply to Cherie Co. 38 and April before RENEW. 42, who both wish to look like their skin in good condition without going through laser, going under the knife.

For these ladies, and others who prefer less invasive forms of facial rejuvenation, Facial Care Center offers an alternative solution. **RENEW by Affirm.**

**Q. How does RENEW work?**  
Cherie: RENEW is a fractional laser that uses the new innovation called QAF technology. It can target aged and photoaged skin.

**Q. How long is the RENEW treatment?**  
Cherie: RENEW takes about 30 minutes.

**April: Yeah, around 20 minutes and you're done.**

**Q. What will I feel during the RENEW procedure?**  
April: There is a tickle-like stinging

sensation, but it's not really painful, because the machine has a cooling effect that you feel along with the hot heat. Cherie: And because the procedure is quick, you don't really feel much discomfort.

**Q. How long is the downtime after a RENEW treatment?**  
April: The night after I did RENEW, my skin just turned a little red. My neck area is usually more sensitive. I just put on oil. It took the next morning there were only a few red marks on some areas of my face. The day after that, there were no more marks at all.

**Q. How is RENEW different from Fraxel or Thermage?**

Cherie: Well, I've had both Fraxel and Thermage, and compared to RENEW, Fraxel took about an hour. I would definitely say RENEW is better than Fraxel, in terms of the treatment time. The procedure was less painful. It's less waiting time. Like me, and in fact, me too. Because when I did Fraxel I had scratches, there was gel, there was the blue eye, and I could feel the pain. The downtime of a Fraxel treatment is around 3 to 4 days with Fraxel. It's just around 24 hours. You can just sleep it off. And with RENEW, after 24 hours you should also put on make-up. With Fraxel, even with minimal cover, one person could see your skin. As for Thermage, I've also tried it before and it's more sensitive because there is a redness. Obviously it's a very painful procedure. I even had two sessions of laser treatment recently in the jaw area. So I would go to sleep with these big pads, looking like I had multiple. With RENEW, there's no anesthesia, there's a tingling but it's almost bearable. I've found that Fraxel or Thermage, and it's hard

April before RENEW

I wouldn't do these treatments again, if I have one year and I want, I would just do the one.

**Q. What skin problems can be treated by RENEW?**  
April: I went to the shoot straight from the gym and I think I look like this. "Your skin looks like it was that young again!" The only real thing I did was RENEW so I know that was it. Cherie: The 2nd or 4th day after the treatment, I really felt the skin was tighter, smoother on the neck. I'm still looking forward to more treatments so I can get rid of my future lines.

Experience this anti-aging treatment through only at Facial Care Center. Call 800-5A-1000 now for a FREE consultation.

Cherie Co.

April before RENEW

April before RENEW





# Conejos is RP bet for world migration body post

PROGRESSIVE MAJOR, **Jose Arroyo**, has named Foreign Secretary **Francisco S. Duque** as the Philippines' candidate for the post of Deputy Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) based in Geneva, Switzerland, the Department of Foreign Affairs said Monday.

"Secretary Arroyo will bring to the IOM a unique combination of policy expertise backed by solid operational capabilities," the DFA said in a statement to the President in saying he has recommended Duque to the IOM. The IOM election will be held in June.

Mr. Arroyo cited Duque's "proven leadership of the Bureau of Migration and Development" as its chief, and his contributions toward the adoption of the 2007 Asian Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, the DFA said in a statement.

## World class

A Philippine presence in the global migration body would provide the country an opportunity to share its multi-class work ethics and practices on migration management, it added.

The IOM has lauded the Philippines' labor deployment system—its recruitment, contracting, training, welfare, insurance, its protection of migrant workers rights, the DFA said.

It has worked with the IOM to ensure migrant workers from smaller areas, specifically the July 2008 representation of more than 4,000 migrants work from war-torn

**DUI, GMA**  
Conejos also coordinated the evacuation of tens of thousands of Filipinos from **DUI** during the civil disorder there in 2000 and also, since 2004, its has succeeded in ensuring the release of Filipino workers and women held hostage in various parts of the world.

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# Militant groups boo Palparan at House

By Leticia Salazar

THE BOON OF MILITANT GROUPS METED with approval as the name of newly installed House speaker Rep. Jovito Palparan was called during the oath-taking of new representatives before Speaker Neri Cojuangco yesterday.

Palparan, among the 33 new representatives who attended the session and were to uphold their duties as lawmakers before co-leaders, family members and other guests.

Also present were Rep. Rodolfo Puy, Mr. Louie Alarino, whose entry was also resisted, because he is the South Ateneo in the House.

The names of the lawmakers were called one by one. But, they took their seats in the House. When Palparan's name was called, the members of militant groups, who were in the gallery, expressed their disapproval.

Palparan has been tagged a "henchman" by critics who accuse him of having a hand

in the deaths of his colleagues. He has denied the allegations.

After the oath-taking, the session was suspended until the new party-list representatives proceeded to legislative office.

## Word war

Sparked by reaction before the oath-taking, Palparan said he was growing for a "new war" in Congress, which is markedly different from combat in the field which he was familiar with when he was in the military.

He said he expected the militant groups questioning his qualifications to express the proposals and bills he would advance. "This is a place for debate. We will debate. There is no field combat. I am done with my time in combat. I am, in a way, done," he said. As for the disqualification case filed against him by militant groups, he said they were wrong about him. He added that he would answer the allegations case by case. The case said he could not allow himself to be led by the militant forces at his.

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## Joker blames House militants

Page 4

presidential appointments, the session was not attended by the Commission on Appointments.

"Why did I come to the House, who now protest his presidential appointment, not even on the 12 members, but House members in the commission to vote against his confirmation? Only one, they blame me," said Palparan.

There were violent protests and those against him present of their appointment were his presence, he said.

But in the end, the session, composed of 12 House members and 12 senators with the House speaker presiding, confirmed Palparan's presidential appointment.

Alarino said only he and his son, Sergio Alarino III, from the House voted against Palparan's confirmation because of the general's human rights record.

Palparan made it to his office, and gave a new command to the House to do his job. He said, he is a congressman, and he is a congressman, and he is a congressman.

Alarino said he is a congressman, and he is a congressman, and he is a congressman.

Alarino is the son of a congressman, and he is a congressman, and he is a congressman.

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language based on a letter from the Supreme Court ruling that he should belong in the House as a representative. He said he was in the House office a few months before he and the other 12 House members were called to the House.

No respect of laws

Alarino, however, said he was in the House office a few months before he and the other 12 House members were called to the House.

Palparan has been called a "henchman" for the alleged killings of senators and support of communist rebels in areas where he was assigned before he was still in active service.

In both parties, Reyes and Calaguan said that the Supreme Court itself affirmed the Court of Appeals ruling that Palparan was "clearly involved" in the abduction of human rights activists and the killing of human rights activists.

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We find ways









# WHO raises global alert vs swine flu virus

As on page 40  
In addition to Spain and Mexico.

"We find this, movement to not a feasible option," said Sergio Fajardo, WHO's assistant director general.

**Sustained transmission**  
The WHO's assistant director general said in Phase 4, meaning there is sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus among multiple cases in at least one country. Mexico was the first case as it has been seen there since Phase 3.

During an alert at Phase 4 or 5, it is argued that the virus is becoming increasingly adept at spreading abroad. Mexico, Phase 4 is for a full-blown pandemic, characterized by sustained cases in at least two regions of the world.

**We are praying**  
Philippine health secretary Francisco Duque III said in Facebook City that the Department of Health would do its best to keep the country safe from the epidemic.

"We are praying that this will not do harm to us. Duque said in reports. But just in case, he said that the 2004 flu season 500,000 deaths could be avoided, he might be sure 50,000 patients.

He cautioned the public against an "epidemic of misinformation" about the disease that could prove disastrous.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap also requested the ban on pork imports from Mexico and the United States and included Canada.

**Confirmed cases**  
"On not panic," before Secretary Duque said there is a new outbreak after a meeting of the National Disaster Coordinating Council. "We are

## IN THE KNOW: FACTS ON SWINE FLU

**What is it?**  
Swine influenza is a common and easily treatable virus that causes the flu. It is caused by a type A influenza virus. Normally the disease is spread among pigs, but sometimes people can become infected if they come into contact with infected pigs or people. It is also spread from person to person.

**Why the alarm?**  
The World Health Organization says the disease could cause a pandemic because it is a new virus and the outbreak has "human characteristics." "It is a new virus and the outbreak has 'human characteristics'," WHO said. "It is a new virus and the outbreak has 'human characteristics'."

which has killed projected people. It is a new virus and the outbreak has "human characteristics."

**What about the outbreak?**  
Experts say there is no certainty that a pandemic will happen or if it will. It is a new virus and the outbreak has "human characteristics."

**Which countries are most affected?**  
Mexico is the epicenter of the outbreak, with 10 confirmed cases reported as of Monday. Other countries include the United States, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

California and Spain continue. Several countries from Colombia to New Zealand are trying to control the virus.

**How does the virus spread?**  
Swine flu spreads through direct contact with infected pigs, or through contact with people who have been in contact with infected pigs. It is also spread from person to person.

**What are the symptoms?**  
Symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, and muscle aches. Some people also have reported diarrhea and vomiting.

It could take four to six months before the first batch of vaccines are available, WHO said.

**US prepares for the worst**  
The United States prepared for the worst case as President Barack Obama said to Congress.

As the White House, a order the update was added to the daily intelligence briefing. Obama said the outbreak is "not a matter for alarm," even as the United States stepped up checks of people entering the country.

The last way to keep the disease from spreading, besides of strict rules, is by taking everyday precautions such as the good handwashing, covering up coughs and sneezes, and staying away from sick or infected if not feeling well.

**Air travel urged out**  
WHO spokesman Peter Godwin urged on all travel agencies to urge the virus could spread, saying that the WHO estimates that up to 100,000 people are in place in one time.

Governments in Asia, with Mexico's aid, are urged to take measures to prevent the outbreak, such as stopping the virus, Singapore, Thailand, Japan, Indonesia and the Philippines. Japan and the Philippines started off thermal scanners used in the 2003 SARS crisis and were looking for signs of fever among passengers from South America, South Korea, India and Indonesia also announced screening.

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on his appointment as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines  
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- Ghamie Clare T. TEMPROSA
- Edison C. TEODORO



A testimonial dinner will be tendered in honor of the new lawyers on Wednesday, April 29, 2009, 6:00 P.M. at the Corregidor B Room of Century Park Hotel, 588 P. Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila.

For further inquiries, please call the Office of the Dean—Justice Dante O. Tinga Chamber, UE College of Law, Manila. Tel No. 735-6471 local 324 or 735-6978.

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# Tribal heroes honored on Cordillera Day

By Dennis Caloria  
Special Writers' Lane

**BOHOL.** DRUMS—POEMS, songs and ritual dances were offered to the tribal heroes of the Cordillera during the celebration of Cordillera Day here last week.

About 5,000 people who attended the event paid tribute to heroes who gave up their lives to defend their ancestral land from controversial dams.

"We are reminded that in every struggle, there is sacrifice and even death is an occurrence. With the ending spirit of our Cordillera warriors, like Macabing Inlay and others, they are here to guide us," Jesse Caloria, an activist who taught martial law to the

1970s, said during the activities.

During a program (introduced at the Bohol Fair in Cebu), warbler and folk by an army soldier on April 24, 1980. Using the Cordillera and Bohol people to protect the Cordillera River basin hydroelectric dam project.

The Cordillera Day is a yearly celebration organized by the Cordillera Peoples Alliance to honor Inlay's heroism. This year, the 20th anniversary held simultaneously in Yugon (Davao), Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, Zamboanga, Cotabato, and Marikina.

Celebrations were also held by Cordillera-based in Cebu, including the Bohol.

Highlights of the tribute was the singing of "Bamban" (Bohol's name) by members of the Department of Education and community by various performers.

A documentary film honoring the lives of the Cordillera and local activists to protect their land was shown to the delegates.

Among those honored were the late political activist Jose Antonio Cruz, Jose "Pepi" Manalang, Romeo Banchal, Albert Tumbalao and Jose Cruz, and community leaders Daniel Magpantay, Lito Espino and Wanda Tumbalao.

The Bohol Agribusiness, an organization of Bohol residents, hosted the celebration because of the threat posed by the entry

of an American mining firm in the municipality.

In November last year, a group of residents filed with the regional office of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples a complaint questioning the approved lease by which the two prior and informed consent (FPIC) of the tribes was given in the company could conduct initial drilling operations in the area.

"The issue... is not only the extending of the FPIC process, but the destruction of the agricultural areas and the environmental once large mining firms are allowed to mine in these areas," said "Pepi" Banchal, spokesperson of the Bohol Mining Alert Action Network.



BOHOL: People of the Cordillera honor the martyrs of Cordillera Day and other tribal heroes through songs, poems and plays.

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# Cotabato steals Palaro spotlight from NCR, W. Visayas

**By Ryan Navas**

**TELEVISION**—EVERYBODY'S A FIGHTING CRUISE. Cotabato City has been in the spotlight since the 2008 Palaro Finals. The city's 10th anniversary celebration, which took place in the Cotabato City Sports Complex, was the first time since the 1990s that the Cotabato City Sports Complex was the venue for a national sports event. The 10th anniversary celebration, which took place in the Cotabato City Sports Complex, was the first time since the 1990s that the Cotabato City Sports Complex was the venue for a national sports event.



**STUNTERS** Delighted at performing the opening of the Palaro Finals, which was highlighted by the presence of President Macapagal-Arroyo (left), Vice President Noyon (center), and Vice President Duterte (right), the Cotabato City Sports Complex was the venue for a national sports event.

Several members of the Arroyo Cabinet were in the Cotabato City Sports Complex to witness the opening ceremony. The Cotabato City Sports Complex was the venue for a national sports event.

# Lakers advance; Nuggets humiliate hapless Hornets

**LOS ANGELES**—THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS CRUISED INTO THE SECOND round of the NBA playoffs on Monday while the Denver Nuggets scored a big step closer to joining them with a record-setting thrashing of the New Orleans Hornets.

The Western Conference champion Lakers (51-30) advanced to the second round of the playoffs, while the Denver Nuggets (37-46) and New Orleans Hornets (31-51) were eliminated.

The Lakers' victory was a 100-point rout, with the team scoring 120 points in the second half. The Nuggets, on the other hand, were outscored 120-60 in the second half.

The Lakers' victory was a 100-point rout, with the team scoring 120 points in the second half. The Nuggets, on the other hand, were outscored 120-60 in the second half.



**NOT EVEN** the calling defense of the Lakers could stop Kobe Bryant (right) and the Lakers from scoring in the second round.

# Lions battle Stags; Tams debut today

**LAST YEAR'S NCAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS** and the University of the Philippines (UP) Football Team will take on the Stags of the Stags Football Club today.

The UP Football Team will take on the Stags of the Stags Football Club today. The game will be held at the Stags Football Club.

# Growee Pinoy Beach Games gets going

**ESPANOLA**—THE FIRST TROPICAL GROWEE Pinoy Beach Games kicked off today with a beach volleyball match between the Philippines and the United States.

The first match of the Growee Pinoy Beach Games was a beach volleyball match between the Philippines and the United States.

# Camacho insists wushu polls valid

**By Corbett Tague**

**FORMER WUSHU FEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES** president and wushu coach Corbett Tague insists that the wushu polls held in Manila last week were valid.

Corbett Tague, who was the president of the Philippine Olympic Committee, insists that the wushu polls held in Manila last week were valid.



**WINDMILL** Dismantling of the Lakers was a good sign for the Lakers.

# Tigresses keep slate clean; Lady Stags nip Lady Pirates

**By Corbett Tague**

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** Tigresses kept their record clean by defeating the Lady Pirates of the University of the Philippines (UP) in a basketball game today.

The Tigresses of the University of Southern California kept their record clean by defeating the Lady Pirates of the University of the Philippines (UP) in a basketball game today.

# Padyak Pinoy champions' bike race kicks off May 8

**By Corbett Tague**

**THE COUNTRY'S TOP CYCLISTS** will take part in the Padyak Pinoy bike race, which will be held in Manila on May 8.

The Padyak Pinoy bike race, which will be held in Manila on May 8, will feature the country's top cyclists.















# Sri Lanka to stop air strikes, shelling of rebels

**COLOMBO**—SRI LANKA, NEEDED to end fighting heavy enough for the war-torn island was seen to negotiate thousands of children trapped there, but instead governing parties in a coalition in it was with the Tamil Tigers rebels.

The rebels accused the government of heavily shelling to prevent its freedom by launching an attack from their side in a village in a heavily populated area. It is a propaganda vehicle report.

A burst of diplomatic activity led to an effort to halt an offensive that has led to the death of the civilian. They can see in the north of the island. Given that rebels and left forces continued in a day would stop.

United States, India and European officials have expressed growing concern for the release of 50,000 other Tamil children still trapped in the war zone and United Nations reports that nearly 10,000 civilians have already been killed in the recent fighting.

The U.S. humanitarian aid John, Thomas, stated President Barack Obama, during a meeting in Colombo on Monday for a "humanitarian pause" in the fighting to allow the children to escape to at least to emerge from their shelters to reach for help.

"There is no doubt we will support that effort," he said, "and we will continue to work with the Sri Lankan government to bring this conflict to a peaceful end."

European Union foreign ministers also agreed to an initiative to end the conflict. They called for a "humanitarian pause" in the fighting to allow the children to escape to at least to emerge from their shelters to reach for help.

In an apparent effort to allow the process, the government is expected to announce a "humanitarian pause" in the fighting to allow the children to escape to at least to emerge from their shelters to reach for help.

The government, which remains in power, said it would continue efforts to end the conflict.

The statement, a day after the government had agreed to a cease-fire, said the rebels, who are not recognized by the United Nations, had agreed to a "humanitarian pause" in the fighting to allow the children to escape to at least to emerge from their shelters to reach for help.

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IN THIS PAGE: A view of a city skyline from the primary residence of a former U.S. ambassador in Sri Lanka, followed by a photo of a former U.S. ambassador in Sri Lanka, followed by a photo of a former U.S. ambassador in Sri Lanka.

## Obama jet flyover in NY photo op sets off panic

**NEW YORK**—ONE OF THE president's official planes and a top-secret fighter jet zoomed past the lower Manhattan skyline in a flash just as the city was beginning its Monday morning rush, sparking a panic among residents.

The plane, a Boeing 747, was seen flying low over the city, and many residents reported seeing it. The plane was seen flying low over the city, and many residents reported seeing it.

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## NORTHRAIL North Lagoon Railways Corporation

### INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

The North Lagoon Railways Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "NORTHRAIL") invites interested DISTRIBUTORS, DEALERS and SUPPLIERS to apply for eligibility and to bid for the Procurement of Various Parts and Materials for NORTHRAIL. The Approved Budget for the Contract is P5,000,000.00. The deadline for the submission of LOR is on 07 May 2010, 09:00 am. The LOR should state the Company's name, address, and contact person directly employed by the company. Interested distributors, dealers and suppliers must submit the Bid Documents and Terms of Reference for a non-refundable fee of P25,000.00 (P25,000.00) (P25,000.00).

Interested Parties are required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Chairperson, NORTHRAIL, Bids and Awards Committee, NORTHRAIL, Field Office, 31 Agaña Subdivision, Capatzen Valley Road, 31st Flr, Hagia, Daguigan, Bulacan or before 4:00 pm between 30 April to 07 May 2010. The deadline for the submission of LOR is on 07 May 2010, 09:00 am. The LOR should state the Company's name, address, and contact person directly employed by the company. Interested distributors, dealers and suppliers must submit the Bid Documents and Terms of Reference for a non-refundable fee of P25,000.00 (P25,000.00) (P25,000.00).

For Additional information or clarification, please call Mr. Arma Arce at 021 298-6403 or (044) 698-1125 local 7421.

(original signed) GLORIA GEORGINA D. JOTA, Chairperson, NORTHRAIL - BAC

(P21 April 28, 2010)



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(P21 April 28, 2010)

## WorldBriefs

### Singaporean terrorist jailed

**SINGAPORE**—A Southeast Asian man who admitted to plotting attacks on U.S. military bases in the Philippines was sentenced to 15 years in jail. The man, a 38-year-old Singaporean, was found guilty of plotting to attack U.S. military bases in the Philippines. He was sentenced to 15 years in jail.

### 2 aid workers released

**MOZAMBIQUE**—A French aid worker and a local aid worker were released from custody after being held for several days. The aid workers were released from custody after being held for several days.

### Sri Lanka bans Swedish PM

**COLOMBO**—Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister said that the Swedish Prime Minister was banned from entering Sri Lanka. The ban was imposed on the Swedish Prime Minister.

### Seachells to try pirates

**MOGADISHU**—An Italian-led coalition of forces is expected to try pirates in the near future. The coalition is expected to try pirates in the near future.

### Israelis mark Memorial Day

**TEL AVIV**—Israelis mark Memorial Day, a day to remember those who died in the Israel-Arab conflict. The day is a day to remember those who died in the Israel-Arab conflict.

**THE EXORCIST** defined the horror genre. Now, **THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT** is reinventing it.

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Hi-Smart® A and C, for better strength and endurance to stress, fatigue and disease. It's the winning team of nutrients in the optimal amounts, in high children's (A-C) Hi-Smart® to help children of their growth potential, both physically and mentally, helping make them tall, smart, strong, fast, smart high, big heart, and big body. It's a new generation of basketball players, with your child at the forefront.



## The World

# Iraq wants US forces out of urban areas

Editor Lawrence B. Goss

BAGHDAD—IRAQ WANTS AMERICAN TROOPS TO withdraw from urban areas and only return with government approval, a defense ministry spokesman said on Monday, casting doubt about whether the United States can maintain troops in certain trouble spots even as they withdraw elsewhere.

Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Mohammed al-Jaburi said that the military's position is still that US troops must leave by the agreed deadline despite some calls for them to remain in northern cities of Mosul and Tikrit provinces.

US and Iraqi commanders will make negotiations with Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, who will decide whether to grant exceptions to a security pact requiring US troops to leave Iraq's major cities by June 30.

"The general position of the Iraqi Defense Ministry is to keep the military in the withdrawal zone," al-Jaburi said.

In the withdrawal zone, that American troops withdraw from Iraq cities and not enter the cities unless they get Iraqi approval, al-Jaburi said.

Under a US-Iraq security pact that took effect on Jan. 1, American troops will leave the country entirely by the end of 2011. President Barack Obama has announced plans to withdraw combat troops by Aug. 31, 2010, leaving a contingency force of 30,000 to 50,000 troops in advisory and training capacities.

Violence has been intense at some of the withdrawal levels since the withdrawal.

During the US-Iraq invasion in 2003, there was a series of high-profile suicide bombings in several cities, but no other large-scale and sustained terrorist attacks.

The attacks have also brought into question the ability of Iraq's security forces to take over from US troops.

Gen. Raymond Odierno, chief of US operations in Iraq, has not specifically said whether US troops would leave by the deadline, but said that negotiations would have to be made by al-Maliki.

For American commanders here, and if there are no exceptions, the security of cities of Mosul would be a priority. The city is considered one of the hot spots of Iraqi insurgents.

The Iraqi government is looking at the situation of the cities of the city.

## IBM computer to compete on 'Jeopardy!'

WASHINGTON—IBM HAS TWO ALIENS competing on the popular US game show "Jeopardy!"

IBM said its computers have been working for nearly two years on an advanced computer system called "Watson"—what IBM founder Thomas Watson, not Sherlock Holmes, called it.

It said the computer, called "Watson," will be able to eventually compete on "Jeopardy!" a TV show in which contestants provide answers to questions in various categories, including history, science, politics, film, geography and literature.

IBM said "Watson" would pose a stiff challenge for a competing program because the show's 11, 2007 season, only to be eventually defeated by the program's and other contestants.

The show's 11, 2007 season, only to be eventually defeated by the program's and other contestants.

The show's 11, 2007 season, only to be eventually defeated by the program's and other contestants.

The show's 11, 2007 season, only to be eventually defeated by the program's and other contestants.

## Osama bin Laden 'may be dead,' says Pakistani leader

ISLAMABAD—PAKISTAN'S PRESIDENT said his intelligence agencies believe Osama bin Laden may be dead, but he added there is no proof.

President Pervez Musharraf said his intelligence agencies believe Osama bin Laden may be dead, but he added there is no proof.

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## Women say they don't care if men are bald, but we know they do.

Business turns most women off whether they admit it or not. For them, it's not just hair, but hair loss. They perceive balding men to be older than their actual age and lacking in self-confidence.

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## Shanghai shines, bucks industry gloom

Text and photos  
 by Charles E. Babb

**N**OT THAT LONG AGO, THE Shanghai Motor Show was regarded as marginal to the international circuit with the world's racing journalists willing to skip it for the more prestigious motor shows of Tokyo, Detroit, Frankfurt and Geneva.

But with China's vehicle sales hitting a monthly record of 3.11 million vehicles in March, exceeding the United States sales for the first month in a row, this year's 15th staging of the nation's largest motor show has been scheduled to not only showcase the latest in automotive technology, but also to showcase the country's growing automotive market.

The world's automakers are pinning their hopes of recovery on the Chinese state market, considering that China car sales are up 9 percent from the previous record of 1.26 million in March last year.

### Comment

The figure thus should cement China in its position as the world's largest car market, whose sales is projected to reach 10.7 million vehicles by the end of this year.

Incidentally, the American bought 807,700 new vehicles in March, down 27 percent from the 1.16 million sold in the same month last year.

"China is the only healthy large car market in the world right now and this means it's a global is going to get the most attention from everybody," said Jack Smith, general manager of GM's China Sales & Service.

In contrast to its massive back home, GM reported to sell 107,000 vehicles in China in March, up 24.4 percent from a year earlier.

Indeed, China is one of the only places in the world where GM's investments are heading in the right direction at the moment.

**Wide product lineup**  
 Fully embraced GM's strong showing in a wide product lineup, and forecast that the company would double its sales, to reach three million vehicles a year, by 2014.

But a special pride of the all-new Chevrolet Cruze sedan line is set to take the bar for design, speed, fuel economy and driving performance in the region's automotive arena.

Indeed, the Chevy Cruze is GM's best bet to try and meet some sales from Ford Focus, Honda Civic, Mitsubishi Lancer and Toyota Altis.

The Cruze features Chevrolet's distinctive new design philosophy: a more pronounced split grille, a more "active" design that uses a raised central console to split the driving and passenger areas.

Pitched as a "global car," Chevy said the Cruze is built around the company's new global computer platform called the Delta and will be sold at over 100 in as well as in America and Europe.

Buyers will have a choice of a 112 hp 1.8 and 140 hp 1.8 gasoline engines as well as a 200 hp 2.4 turbocharged. Last of all, GM Auto introduced Philippines PM manager, indicated that the Chevy Cruze will be sold competitively against the Mitsubishi Lancer and Toyota Altis in the country later this year.



**IN CONJUNCTION** to the industry's efforts supporting education, China's market is still booming.



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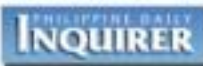
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# LIFESTYLE Home & Entertaining

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Go for as many as four shades that either complement each other or strike a contrast.



## Jazz up a boring bedroom with colors

By Rita T. Vergara

IT'S QUITE UNDERSTANDABLE for certain individuals to play it safe when it comes to open areas such as the living room. But inside bedrooms, not a few interior designers encourage their clients to get more "personal."

"The bedroom is your personal space," says education and interior

designer Jo Thelma, director of interior affairs of the Philippine Interior Designers' Association (PIDA). "You can't everyday don't be afraid to go for colors and pieces that suit you."

And since the use of colors and pieces is very much a trend nowadays, Thelma says clients to go for as many as four colors that can either contrast or complement each other in the bedroom.

"I don't see any reason why you should limit yourself to just one color," she says.

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A VIEW of the living room from the second floor



ALLAN with his daughters Allison and Cora



ALLAN HOPPELHAND'S living room is stylishly put together and very comfy. The architect also uses efficiency and wants to bring out

## Old World yet modern, with a touch of feng shui

By Lisa Bernando and Frankie Jacinto

**A**LAN HOPPELHAND is the owner of the house behind the ultra-modern Hoppele Hotel in Taguigay and the former Manila-based entrepreneur in the city of Manila.

The latter project, with long-time business partner Happy Dagupan, is the newly opened Patisia restaurant in Taguigay.

He visited Manila's home recently and appreciated the way it was decorated in a very personal style. The house has an eclectic mix of traditional family heirlooms combined with modern artistic touches, all revolving around the elements of feng shui.

Allan lives with his two daughters, Allison, 22, and Cora, 20, in a three-story townhouse. A fan believes in feng shui, she has put together a home that reflects its protective collection of remedies. Feng shui has brought her not only luck and prosperity, but also



HOPPELHAND's collection of glassware is a mix of old and new.

turning it into her home and workplace, she says.

Proud of her heritage, Allan also has memories of her grandparents, former Vice President Fernando Lopez, displayed in various spots in her house. Her favorite book is the wedding album of her parents (Dina Lopez and Raul Sison), which she keeps in the living room. Her living room walls are adorned with various 1977 T-shirts, which she got from her father, one of her



Closest friends.

When Allan exercises, it is usually called dinner in wine and cheese nights with close friends. Her dining room chairs are flanked by Philippe Starck. She combines modern pieces with classic and European furniture from 1970s. She also has a green to live by her mother.

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## HYPERLIPIDEMIA



**Q** The World Bank's annual report today cautions against reliance on trade liberalization as the sole means of promoting economic growth.



















